

by genera, regardless of the family affiliation. This makes it easier to find an account covering a particular genus without referring to the index, and since the species recognized within genera are also listed alphabetically, it is now quite easy to find the textual coverage of any species. A possible fault in such an order may be that it precludes grouping closely related species or genera together, and one must skip around through many pages to consult the full description of the members of any of the larger families.

Another innovation is apparent in the location of the date of publication applicable to the references in the section on "Principal Works Consulted" immediately following the name of the author(s) instead of at the end of the citation.

In several cases the arrangement of back-to-back plates now brings related photographs together instead of having them widely separated as was the case in earlier editions. Thus, plates 37 and 38, following p. 524, bear two photographs of *Pseudotsuga menziesii* on opposite faces of the inserted plate, and the plates between 556 and 557 (plates 39 and 40) represent *Sequoia sempervirens* and *Sequoiadendron gigantea* respectively.

The number of named cultivars recognized and included in the text is increased over that of earlier editions, although doubt is sometimes expressed as to the correct systematic alignment of some of them.

The descriptions, as in earlier issues, is reasonably full, and largely non-technical. Economic importance of various species is well covered. Notes about climatic requirements, methods of propagation, characteristics of the wood, soil preferences, susceptibility to attacks by insect and fungous pests, and general suitability for garden or park plantings will be helpful to gardeners, whether they be professionals or amateurs. Added notes on age at which various species normally begin to produce seed, approximate number of seeds required to weigh one pound, reactions of the young and mature plants to smog and other industrial wastes often contain information found in few other places or only in scattered reports and papers.

The 4th edition contains 46 plates, 131 line drawings, and 118 references in the "Principal Works Consulted" as compared with 39 plates, 120 figures, and 83 references in the 3rd edition. The new line drawings are credited to Mr. H. R. W. Herbert, but there is no identifying mark or initials to indicate his work.

Typographical errors seem to be very few. Probably the most noticeable one occurs on page 15 where both the ordinal and family names are correctly spelled, but the genus *Ginkgo* in the generic heading is spelled "*Gingko*."

The index is a model of completeness and very careful work. Generic, specific, varietal, and common names are listed, as well as a huge number of cultivars.

The quality of the paper used is good, the printing excellent and clean-cut. The green buckram binding appears to be a bit light weight for a book of its size and may fail to hold up if the book is handled extensively—as many copies most surely will be. The authors' names, the title, and the American publisher's name appear on the spine in silver letters and give an attractive appearance to a shelved volume. This edition beyond doubt will be a standard reference work for years to come and should be received with enthusiasm and praise.—IRA L. WIGGINS, Dudley Herbarium, Stanford University.

## NOTES AND NEWS

JEPSON'S FLORA OF CALIFORNIA.—All published numbers of W. L. Jepson's "Flora of California" are still available at the original prices from the ASUC Store, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720. Such volumes rarely are listed in booksellers' catalogues, suggesting that it is not generally known that they are still available new. Although the Flora is incomplete, the parts published are very useful for amateur or professional botanists working in the western United States.—ROBERT ORNDUFF, Director, Jepson Herbarium and Library.